Reduction in AC 3 fares

536. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have proposed reduction in AC-1 and AC-2 fares but has not touched AC-3 fares;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government would consider proportionate reduction in AC-3 fares or compensate with some additional facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The fares of AC-I and AC-2 were brought down to make these Classes more attractive and to increase their occupancy.

(c) No, Sir.

Rail overbridge at Mulamkunnathu Kavu

537. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representation to speed up complete and commission the Rail Over Bridge (ROB) at Mulamkunnathu Kavu, near Thrissur because this ROB is vital for patients and others to go to Thrissur Medical College, which has been recently shifted to the new venue; and

(b) whether special emphasis would be given for the completion of it, in view of this new situation developed, following the shifting of Thrissur Medical College to the new place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The work for construction of bridge proper on Railway portion as well as the approaches has been entrusted to M/s Roads and Bridges Development Corporation of Kerala (RBDCK), an undertaking of Kerala State Government under supervision of Railway. At present, 40% work on bridge proper (across tracks) and 74% on approaches has been completed. It is targeted for completion by 31.3.2007.